

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 017849

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TO CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG IMMEDIATE

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LIMDIS, FOR POLAD ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT HAMBURG 81 ACTION SECSTATE INFO  
LUXEMBOURG BRUSSELS BONN ROME LONDON PARIS  
REYKJAVIK LISBON OSLO THE HAGUE COPENHAGEN OTTAWA ATHENS  
ANKARA CINCLANT CINCEUR USLOACLANT USNMR SHAPE  
22 JANUARY 76.

QUOTE

S E C R E T HAMBURG 0081

LIMDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO SECRETARY KISSINGER

E.O.11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR NATO MNUC NPG

SUBJECT: NPG MINISTERIAL -- HIGHLIGHTS

SUMMARY: EIGHTEENTH NPG JANUARY 21 - 22 IN HAMBURG WAS MARKED  
BY SECRETARY RUMSFELD'S BRIEFING OF STRATEGIC WEAPONS AND ANALYSIS  
OF PRESIDENT FORD'S DEFENSE BUDGET TO CHECK ADVERSE TRENDS IN  
MILITARY BALANCE. EMPHASIZING IMPORTANCE OF ISSUES INVOLVED TO  
ALLIANCE'S MILITARY POSTURE, SECRETARY RUMSFELD TABLED PAPER ON  
NATO'S THEATER NUCLEAR FORCE POSTURE AS BASIS FOR FULL ALLIED

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SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 017849

CONSULATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. STRATEGIC BALANCE. SECDEF CITED CONTINUING GLOBAL UNREST AND FACT OF CONSTANT EXPANSION OF SOVIET MILITARY CAPABILITIES AS KEY FACTORS IN US DEFENSE BUDGET PLANNING. HE NOTED THAT SOVIETS HAVE OVERTAKEN US IN REAL PROGRAM VALUE PER YEAR. THE TREND IS DISTURBING, AND THE US DEFENSE PLANS ARE DESIGNED TO CHECK IT. US BUDGET LOOKS TO MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING CURRENT FORCES AND TO REAL PROGRAM GROWTH AND MODERNIZATION.

2. SECRETARY RUMSFELD REVIEWED SOVIET STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENTS IN MISSILES AND THEIR TESTING, SILO CONSTRUCTION, AND SUBMARINE CONSTRUCTION. HE REVIEWED US STRATEGIC PROGRAM AIMED AT CORRECTING ANTICIPATED WEAKNESSES IN OUT YEARS THAT IF NOT ADDRESSED COULD UNDER

MINE THE STRATEGIC DETERRENT. HE CITED AS PROGRAMS THE MX AND TRIDENT II MISSILE PROGRAMS, HARDENING PROGRAMS, POSSIBLE MOBILE OR MULTIPLE-LAUNCH POINT DEPLOYMENTS AND THE B-1 BOMBER. SECRETARY RUMSFELD CONCLUDED THAT STRATEGIC SUFFICIENCY CONTINUES, BUT THAT THE BRISK PACE SET BY SOVIET EFFORTS UNDERScoreD THE NEED FOR ADEQUATE FUNDS FOR STRATEGIC FORCES AND THE DESIRABILITY OF SEEKING TO NEGOTIATE EQUITABLE LIMITS ON STRATEGIC ARMS. HE REVIEWED THE OUTSTANDING SALT II ISSUES, PARTICULARLY CRUISE MISSILE AND BACKFIRE, AND NOTED THAT SECSTATE IS CURRENTLY IN MOSCOW NEGOTIATING ON SALT AND PLANS TO BRIEF THE NAC ON JANUARY 23.

3. IN COMMENTING ON THE STRATEGIC BALANCE, FRG DEFENSE MINISTER LEBER - SUPPORTED BY ITALY'S FORLANI - NOTED THREAT POSED TO EUROPE BY SOVIET MRBMS AND IRBMS - A THREAT SEEN AS STRATEGIC BY EUROPE THOUGH NOT AS SUCH BY THE US AND USSR. IT WAS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT US FBS SYSTEMS ARE CLAIMED BY THE SOVIETS AS STRATEGIC THREATS. MINISTER MASON SUGGESTED THAT THE CRUISE MISSILES MAY IN TIME SERVE AS EUROPE'S COUNTERPART TO SOVIET IBRMS. MINISTER LEBER ALSO URGED THAT ALLIES NOT LOSE SIGHT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECT OF STRATEGIC BALANCE. IF THOSE WHO FIGHT FOR COMMUNISM ARE CONVINCED THAT THE USSR IS A RELIABLE SUPPORTER, AND IF THOSE WHO FIGHT FOR FREEDOM CONCLUDE THEY CANNOT GET COMPARABLE SUPPORT, THEN THERE WILL BE A GRADUAL EROSION OF COURAGE AND MORALE ON THE PART OF THE WEST AND OF NATO. THAT IS WHY ANGOLA IS IMPORTANT.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 017849

4. MINISTER MASON TOOK OCCASION TO REPORT ON UK DEFENSE CUTS - PRECISE AMOUNT OF WHICH WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THREE-FOUR WEEKS. HE SAID THEY WILL BE IN ORDER OF 200 MILLION POUNDS PER YEAR FOR NEXT THREE FISCAL YEARS AND WILL INVOLVE CUTS IN DEFENSE SUPPORT AND CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT. HE SAID THAT CUTS WILL NOT DIMINISH UK FRONT LINE CAPABILITY OR NATO COMMITMENT.

5. U.S. NUCLEAR WEAPONS EMPLOYMENT POLICY AND SEP. SECDEF MADE STATEMENT ON US NUCLEAR WEAPONS EMPLOYMENT POLICY WHICH REAFFIRMED PRINCIPLES EMBODIED IN EARLIER PRESENTATIONS BY US SPOKESMEN IN 1974 AND IN PAPER ON SUBJECT DISTRIBUTED TO NATO LAST AUGUST. SACEUR FOLLOWED WITH A DESCRIPTION OF SELECTIVE EMPLOYMENT PLANNING (SEP) FOR THE USE OF THEATER NUCLEAR WEAPONS. LEBER AND MASON WERE THE ONLY MINISTERS TO COMMENT. BOTH WELCOMED THE PRESENTATIONS AS CONTRIBUTING TO A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE ROLE OF THEATER NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN DETERRENCE. LEBER EMPHASIZED THAT NATO PURPOSE SHOULD BE TO MAKE ALL ELEMENTS OF THE TRIAD SO CONVINCING THAT NO ONE WOULD THINK OF STARTING A WAR. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT POLITICAL CONTROL WOULD BE FACILITATED UNDER THE SEP CONCEPT.

6. THEATER NUCLEAR FORCE POSTURE ISSUES. SYG LUNS RECALLED ISSUES RAISED IN NUNN AMENDMENT REPORTS, AND EXCELLENT CONSULTATION PROCEDURES DEVELOPED IN CONNECTION WITH REPORTS. SECRETARY RUMSFELD COMMENTED ON IMPORTANCE OF THEATER NUCLEAR ISSUES TO THE

ALLIES AND SUMMARIZED FURTHER STUDIES US HAD CONDUCTED ON THOSE ISSUES. HE CIRCULATED US PAPER DISCUSSING THOSE ISSUES AND SUGGESTED THAT THEY SERVE AS BASIS FOR ONGOING NPG CONSULTATIONS IN URGING DEFENSE MINISTERS' CLOSE ATTENTION TO PAPER. SECRETARY RUMSFELD CHARACTERIZED IT AS SEEKING TO SUBJECT THEATER NUCLEAR FORCES TO THE SAME BASIC ANALYSIS AS IS MORE COMMONLY APPLIED TO STRATEGIC AND CONVENTIONAL FORCES: HOW CAN WE STRENGTHEN OUR CAPABILITIES AND DO A BETTER JOB WITH OUR RESOURCES. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE EFFORT WOULD BE TO STRENGTHEN NATO'S STRATEGIC TIAD.

7. IN CONNECTION WITH THE REPORT, SECRETARY RUMSFELD ANNOUNCED THAT 250 ADDITIONAL POSEIDON RV'S ARE BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO SACEUR FOR GSP PURPOSES, MAKING A TOTAL OF 400.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 017849

8. NPG MINISTERS AGREED THAT, FOLLOWING US PRESENTATION, MILITARY COMMITTEE ASK SACEUR AND SACLANT TO COMMENT ON PAPER, WITH NPG MEMBERS TO PROVIDE COMMENTS AFTER FURTHER STUDY AND FORMULATION OF NATIONAL VIEWS. PAPER WILL BE DISCUSSED SUBSEQUENTLY BY NPG PERMREPS, LOOKING TOWARDS NPG MINISTERIAL REVIEW IN JUNE AND DEVELOPMENT BY ALLIES OF COMMON APPRECIATION OF DIRECTION TO BE TAKEN ON THEATER NUCLEAR FORCE POSTURE.

9. PHASE III. NPG MINISTERS APPROVED PERMREPS' REPORT DISCUSSING SCOPE AND ORGANIZATION OF PHASE III STUDY, AND SYG LUNS NOTED THE PHASE III WORKING GROUP WOULD BEGIN ITS STUDY IMMEDIATELY (JAN 22-23). WHILE STRONGLY SUPPORTING THE NEED FOR NATO TO DEVELOP A CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ITS CONCEPT FOR USE OF THEATER NUCLEAR WEAPONS, SOME PARTICIPANTS WERE SKEPTICAL OF THE WORKING GROUP'S ABILITY TO ADHERE TO ITS PROJECTED SCHEDULE (PHASE III FIRST

DRAFT BY OCTOBER 1976). MC CHAIRMAN HILL-NORTON STRESSED NEED FOR RAPIDLY COMPLETING A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF DOCTRINE BUT LABELED THE CURRENT SCHEDULE "WHOLLY UNREALISTIC" AND SUGGESTED THAT EITHER THE SCOPE OF THE STUDY BE REDUCED OR THE STUDY BE PRESENTED IN SECTIONS.

10. MOD MASON STRESSED THAT INTER ALIA PHASE III SHOULD INCORPORATE A DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING NATO NUCLEAR FORCES, THEIR CAPABILITIES AND POTENTIAL USE (WITHOUT ENSHRINING IN PERPETUITY A SYSTEM BECAUSE IT CURRENTLY EXISTS) AND, TAKING ACCOUNT OF COMPLETED FOLLOW-ON USE STUDIES (PHASE I, AND II), DEVELOP UNEQUIVOCAL POLITICAL GUIDELINES FOR NUCLEAR EMPLOYMENT. ADDITIONALLY MASON INDICATED THAT THE US TNF PROPOSALS ANNOUNCED BY SECRETARY RUMSFELD WOULD PROBABLY BE OF KEY IMPORTANCE IN DEVELOPMENT OF PHASE III.

11. NATIONAL RELEASE REQUEST/CNI. MINISTERS NOTED THE PERMREPS' REPORT ON NATIONAL RELEASE REQUESTS AND THE PRELIMINARY REPORT ON CNI WARNING MESSAGES. THEY SUGGESTED FURTHER STUDY ON LATTER SUBJECT IN LIGHT OF MINISTERIAL DISCUSSIONS. MINISTERS ALSO ASKED FOR DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURES IN THESE AREAS WHICH WOULD BE TESTED IN FUTURE NATO EXERCISES.

12. FUTURE WORK PROGRAM. MINISTERS ACCEPTED SYG LUNS' PO ON FUTURE WORK WITH FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS:  
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PAGE 05 STATE 017849

A. NEW TECHNOLOGY - BRIEFING BY MILITARY IMPLICATIONS TEAM AT THE SPRING NPG MINISTERIAL WOULD BE VALUABLE AND WOULD PERMIT MINISTERS TO GIVE GUIDANCE TO POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS TEAM.

B. NUCLEAR AIR DEFENSE - SYG LUNS NOTED THE RELATIONSHIP OF ANY FUTURE STUDY OF NUCLEAR AIR DEFENSE TO THE ONGOING TRI-SERVICE STUDY ON THE OPTIMUM MIX FOR AIR DEFENSE FORCES. HILL-NORTON OBSERVED THAT THE TRI-SERVICE AD STUDY WOULD NOT REFER DIRECTLY TO NUCLEAR AIR DEFENSE QUESTIONS BUT THAT ANY FUTURE NUCLEAR AD REVIEW AWAIT COMPLETION OF THE TRI SERVICE STUDY (THIS MAY) AND TAKE INTO ACCOUNT EXISTING SACEUR APPRAISAL OF NUCLEAR NIKE-HERCULES AIR DEFENSE ROLE.

C. BRIEFING ON US SINGLE INTEGRATED OPERATIONS PLAN - IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST BY SYG LUNS, SECRETARY RUMSFELD AGREED TO CONSIDER A FUTURE BRIEFING ON THE SIOP AS ALTERED BY REVISIONS IN US NUCLEAR EMPLOYMENT POLICY ALONG THE LINES PRESENTED TO THE NPG IN PREVIOUS YEARS.

13. THE MINISTERS APPROVED THE OFFICIAL NPG COMMUNIQUE AND MINUTE OF THE MEETING AND AGREED THAT THE PERMREPS SHOULD TAKE UP THE DATE AND VENUE OF THE SPRING MINISTERIAL. BROGAN UNQUOTE SISCO

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